

being fastened to the heads of the insects near the base of the mouth parts as shown in the accompanying photographs. It is possible that the great abundance of the orchids is due to an efficient polliniza-

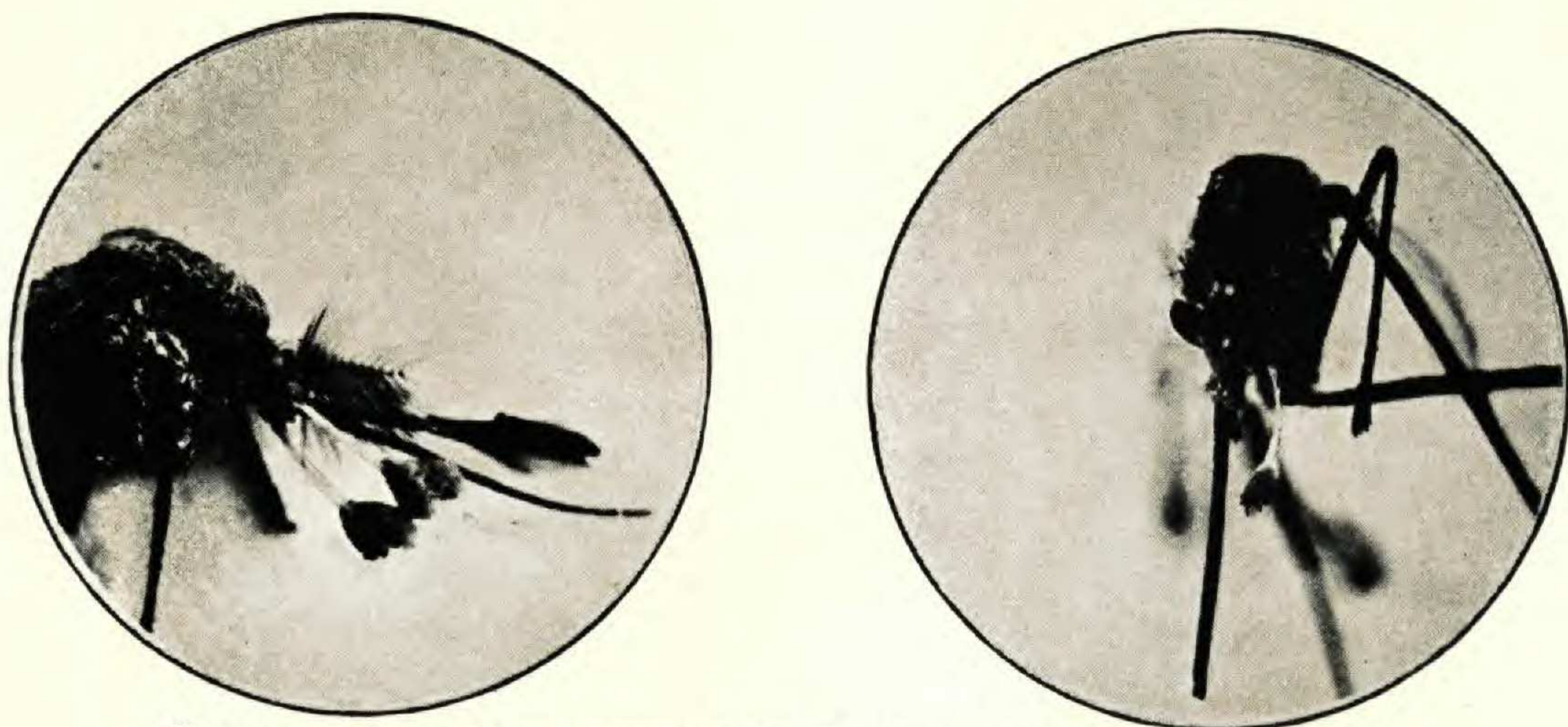


FIG. 1. Mosquitoes carrying the Pollinia of *Habenaria obtusata*.

tion carried on by the myriads of mosquitoes which inhabit the woods. The flowers produce sufficient scent and nectar to attract such sugar-loving insects.—HUGH M. RAUP, Harvard University.

A NEW SALVIASTRUM FROM THE EDWARDS PLATEAU OF TEXAS

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INTRODUCTION

While engaged in the loco survey of a portion of the Edwards Plateau region of Texas and on the occasion of investigating the southern limit of loco on Live Oak Draw in Crockett County, Texas, it became desirable to leave this Draw and cross over the divide to Howard Draw further east. Near the summit of the pass on a gravelly limestone ridge our attention was caught by some plants that seemingly were a species of *Penstemon* not hitherto collected by us, and the car was stopped to make a collection. The first plant reached revealed that it was a *Salviastrum* rather than a *Penstemon*, but that it was new to us and apparently new to science. Grateful acknowledgment is due Dr. Ivan M. Johnston of the Gray Herbarium for valuable suggestions in regard to this plant.

DESCRIPTION

SALVIASTRUM dolichanthum Cory, sp. nov. A low suffrutescent plant 10–20 cm. tall; stems strict, commonly branched from the base, cinereous, covered with a close and dense indument of minute branching hairs, also conspicuously white-setose; leaves entire, firm, ascending, strict, cinereous with a dense indument of minute branching hairs, frequently ciliate, margins revolute, apex obtusish to somewhat acute, midrib evident but veins obscure, pale beneath; basal leaves narrowly oblanceolate becoming 5–6 cm. long and 3–6 mm. broad, below the middle gradually contracted to a slender petiole; cauline leaves linear or oblance-linear, 1–3.5 cm. long and 1–2 mm. broad, the uppermost bracts somewhat cuspidate at apex; flowers solitary in the axils and together forming a cylindrical bracted raceme of 10–20 flowers, the racemes being 5–10 cm. long; calyx at anthesis up to 12 mm. long, glabrescent, reticulately veined, villous-setose towards the base on the outside, conspicuously pilose in the throat within, its lobes lance-oblong, ciliate and cuspidate; corolla blue or purple, subsalverform, 3–3.5 cm. long, pubescent outside, its tube about twice the length of the calyx, 2–2.5 cm. long and up to 2 mm. thick at the base, gradually expanding and curving towards the apex where it is up to 3 mm. thick, sparsely and inconspicuously villous inside just above the base but otherwise glabrous within, its throat short, its limb oblique; filaments of the upper fertile pair of stamens up to 2 cm. long, attached in corolla-throat up to 2.4 cm. above base of corolla; connective up to 1 mm. long, thickened; both anther cells polliniferous, 1 mm. long; the lower pair of stamens represented by abortive rudiments up to 1 mm. long; styles glabrous, filiform, extruded, unequally 2-lobed, the slender lobes being 1.5–2.5 mm. long; nutlets smooth, brown, subglobose, up to 2 mm. in diameter.

A number of plants in flower and in fruit were collected April 20, 1929 from a gravelly, limestone ridge forming the divide between Live Oak and Howard Draws in Crockett County, Texas, 32 miles northwest of Ozona. As similar habitats were not visited collections of this species from other localities were not made. The TYPE specimen, No. 675, is in the herbarium of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at College Station, Texas. Isotypic material, No. 674, has been deposited in the Gray Herbarium.

This species is related to *Salviastrum texanum* Scheele, which occurs commonly throughout the Edwards Plateau, but differs in its extremely elongated and less irregular corolla, and in the shorter, thickened connectives of the anthers. It is a very distinct new species.

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